

NATIONAL GALLERY, IRELAND.

REPORT

OF

THE DIRECTOR

OF THE

NATIONAL GALLERY OF IRELAND

TO THE

BOARD OF GOVERNORS AND GUARDIANS.

FOR THE YEAR 1897.

Presented to Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.



DUBLIN:

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1898.

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DIRECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1897.

National Gallery of Ireland,

31st March, 1898.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

I have to submit my Report of the National Gallery of Ireland for the year 1897 as follows :—

The Gallery was open to the public, under the usual conditions, from the 1st January to the 31st December, with the exception of October, during which month it was closed for cleaning, &c.

Within that period the number of visitors was :—

Free admissions,	69,425
(Of whom 20,060 entered on Sundays.)	
By payment,	1,435
Students' attendance,	1,321

The number of Catalogues sold was 322.

The number of new students admitted to copy was 23—22 ladies and 1 gentleman.

The following pictures, drawings, &c., were purchased at the prices appended :—

For the General Collection :—

	£	s.	d.
A Dutch Interior, by Thomas de Keyser,	175	0	0
Portrait of a Musician, by Raffaellino del Garbo,	1,500	0	0
Portrait of an old Scotch Woman, by T. S. Good,	25	5	0
Landscape, Pencil drawing, by John Constable,	3	5	0
Five sheets of Drawings, by Lord Leighton,	57	15	0

For the Portrait Gallery :—

	£	s.	d.
Portrait Group: Bishop Berkeley and friends, by John Smibert,	75	0	0
Portrait of J. H. Bruce, by R. L. West,	3	0	0
Engraved Portrait of Sir John Perceval, 1st Lord Egmont, by John Smith, after Kneller,	2	10	0
Engraved Portrait of 2nd Earl of Egmont, by J. MacArdell, after T. Hudson,	1	0	0
Engraved Portraits of Isaac Barré, W. Marsden, R. B. Todd, Bishop Hopkins, Archbishop Boylé, and F. Williams,	2	0	0

The following Donations were received during the year :—

For the General Collection :—

Bathsheba, School of G. B. Tiepolo. Presented by John Oryin, Esq., of 47, Stephen's-green, Dublin.

For the Portrait Gallery :—

Portrait of Lord Heytesbury, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. Oil Picture by Eden Upton Edlin.
Presented by Lord Dunsandie.

Portrait. Small Silhouette of the Rev. Henry Boyd. Presented by T. H. Longfield, Esq., F.S.A.

The following two Pictures were transferred by the Trustees of the National Portrait Gallery, London :—

Portrait of Oliver Goldsmith. From the Studio of Sir Joshua Reynolds.

Portrait of Archbishop Oliver Plunkett, by G. Morley.

During the year the following Pictures were surface-cleaned and varnished :—

- No. 446. Portrait of J. H. Broons, by R. L. West.
- " 464. Portrait of Lord Heytesbury, by E. U. Edlin.
- " 216. Portrait of Lord Bellamont, by Sir J. Reynolds.
- " 200. Portrait Group, Earl of Ely and Family, by A. Kneller.
- " 138. Portrait of the Duke of Ormond, by Sir Peter Lely.
- " 410. Portrait of Sir Adam Loftus.

During the month of October the Portrait Gallery was repainted.

It having been found necessary that an additional Porter should be appointed on the Gallery staff, in order that the heating of the building might be properly looked after, the sanction of the Treasury was obtained, and under authority, dated 24th February, 1897, John Dunne was appointed to the post.

I am,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed), WALTER ARMSTRONG,

Director.

APPENDIX.

DESCRIPTION OF PICTURES AND DRAWINGS ACQUIRED DURING THE YEAR.

1. THOMAS DE KEYSER (1596-7-1667). Dutch School.

Interior, with figures. A large room, with a lady seated before a fire conversing with a gentleman who is leaning over the back of her chair. A high massive mantel-piece supported by two undraped stone figures in candelabra on the left of the picture.

Signed with monogram.

On panel, 13½ inches high, 14½ inches wide.

Purchased in London.

Numbered 469, and hung in small Dutch Gallery.

2. RAFFAELINO DEL GARBO (c. 1460-c. 1524). Italian (Florentine) School.

Portrait of a Musician. A half-length figure of a young man, tuning a violin.

On panel, 1 foot 8 inches high, 1 foot 2 inches wide. In contemporary frame.

Purchased in London.

Numbered 470, and hung in Main Gallery.

3. THOMAS SWARD Geon (1789-1872). British School.

Portrait of an old Scotch woman. A three-quarter length figure, leaning with both hands on a stick. She wears a long, black, hooded cloak, and white frilled cap.

On panel, 3½ inches high, 7½ inches wide.

Purchased in London.

Numbered 472, and hung in Modern Gallery.

4. JOHN SMYTHE (c. 1684-1751). British School.

Portrait Group; Bishop Berkeley and others.

2 feet ½ inch high, 3 feet 5 inches wide.

A replica of the picture at Yale University, Connecticut.

Purchased in London.

Numbered 485, and hung in Portrait Gallery.

5. ROBERT LUCIUS WEST, R.H.A. British School.

Portrait of James Henry Bruce, Landscape Painter.

1 foot 11½ inches high, 1 foot 6½ inches wide.

Purchased in Dublin.

Numbered 486, and hung in Portrait Gallery.

6. GIOVANNI BATTISTA TIEPOLO (1692-1769). Italian School.

SCHOOL OF TIEPOLO.

Salshaba. A figure, almost nude, reclining before a mirror held by a female attendant. At her side a black page.

4 feet 1 inch high, 3 feet 3 inches wide.

Presented by John Orpin, Esq., Dublin.

Numbered 487, and hung in S.W. Gallery.

7. EDEN UPTON HOUSE. British School.

Portrait of Lord Heytesbury, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. Painted in 1844
4 feet 2 inches high, 4 feet 3 inches wide.
Presented by Lord Dunsandle.
Numbered 464, and hung in Portrait Gallery.

8. JOHN CONSTABLE (1776-1837). British School.

Landscape. Pencil Sketch.
Purchased in London.
Numbered 2058, and hung in Water Colour Gallery.

9. FREDERICK, LORD LAUGHTON, P.R.A. (1830-1896). British School:

Five sheets of Drawings. Studies, in black and white crayons, of figures and drapery.
Purchased in London.
Numbered 2175, and hung in Water Colour Gallery.

10. ARTIST UNKNOWN.

A small silhouette portrait of the Rev. Henry Boyd, translator of Dante.
Presented by THOS. H. LONGFIELD, Esq., F.S.A.
Numbered 2330, and hung in Portrait Gallery.